



AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

Used Book Sale April 28, 29, 30

Midland Mall ~ Friday & Saturday 9-4 Sunday 10-4
Trudy Dutot, Book Sale Chair



Books are coming in! I hope you have already signed up to help in some way. We need people all month to help in the Sort Room. The Midland Mall is again allowing us to use a vacant store to process the thousands of books that are donated. We have a large space located near the Hallmark store. If you enter by Ruby Tuesday, turn right, go a short way and our Sort Room is on the left. AAUW members will be there every day Monday – Saturday from 11-2 starting April 4. You can help put price stickers on books, sort them into category boxes, and help mark prices on children's books. Stop in anytime during sort hours to give us a hand. You will be most welcome. We have fun working together.

Then starting April 27, we need help to set books out in the sale area and sell them. Write to aauwmidland@gmail.com to volunteer to (1) stack books on sale tables Thursday evening, April 27; (2) take a 2-hour shift at the sale, selling or keeping tables straightened; and (3) at the end of the sale Sunday afternoon, help box remaining books to be donated to nonprofit organizations.

We welcome help from spouses and friends. Please tell everyone about our great sale and encourage them to buy books to support scholarships.

From the President ~ Mary Crane-Franek

This month, our quest for promoting advocacy for women and girls continues in our state of Michigan. If you are able, please plan on attending the [Michigan Equal Pay Legislative Day](#) on April 25 in Lansing. If however you cannot, please consider updating your knowledge of current issues on the AAUW advocacy web page <http://www.aauw.org/issues/advocacy/>. Another easy source for AAUW information is, if you are a Facebook user, to start following both the National AAUW and AAUW Midland Branch Facebook websites.

This month we hold our semi-annual Used Book Sale raising funds to provide scholarships. Our scholarship and AAUW Funds commitment is \$14,000 this year. We need your help to reach this goal. You can do this by promoting the sale, donating and gathering books, or working at the sort room or at the book sale.

AAUW National Election – One Member, One Vote

AAUW members will receive their voter information in early April by email and mail with the Spring *AAUW Outlook*. Candidate slate, bylaws proposals, Public Policy Program proposals and resolutions will be published in *Outlook*. You can also check for updates on the [National Election web page](#).



Mary Crane-Franek is 2017 Named Gift Honoree

Jane Wirth, AAUW Funds

One of the wonderful traditions exercised by our Branch is selecting a Named Gift Honoree. The first ones were named in 1946 and over the years more than 105 have been so honored. Honorees have made significant contributions to both the Branch and the community. Previous honorees are listed in the Branch Handbook. The Branch makes a \$1000 contribution to AAUW Funds in the honoree's name with the honoree selecting the particular fund to which the contribution is directed.

Mary Crane-Franek, our Branch President, was honored this year at our annual meeting. She has served the Branch as Membership V-P, Secretary, and President Elect and was just elected Program V-P for next term. Mary joined the Branch in 2004 after working for the Dow Chemical Company for 31 years. Prior to her retirement, Mary was a Big Sister for five years in The Midland Big Brothers Big Sisters program. Since her retirement she has embraced volunteering. Among those activities are serving as secretary for MidMichigan Health's Volunteers Board of Directors. She also served the Good Samaritan Rescue Mission in Bay City for 6 years. Mary has been active in the Osher Lifelong Learning Center at SVSU—the duplicate bridge activities especially. Congratulations, Mary!

Branch Member Betty Chenoweth Honored by United Way

Ann Fillmore, Executive Director, United Way of Midland County

Congratulations to Betty Chenoweth for being named the recipient of the 2017 Heart of the Community Award. This award recognizes an individual who has demonstrated passion for serving our community through volunteering. The award will be presented at the 8th [Annual Spirit of the Community Celebration](#) held at the Great Hall on Tuesday April 25.

This exciting event honors the many ways that individuals and organizations are lending their time, talents, voices, and hearts to create a better and stronger community. We invite you to join us at the Great Hall at Valley Plaza for a cocktail reception beginning at 7:00 pm followed by the awards presentation at 7:30 pm. Tickets can be purchased at \$30 per person by calling the United Way of Midland County at 989 631-3670. **Please RSVP to United Way by April 7.**

Branch Officers for 2017-19

Pauline Pittsley & Kerry Buell, Nominations Co-Officers

Branch officers: President-Elect Carol Arnosky (2017-18, advances to president for 2018-19); 1st Vice President-Program Mary Crane-Franek (2017-19); Communications Officer Donna Wedge (2017-19); Nominations Officer Chris Ferrando (2017-18) and Delegate-at-Large Deb Kaiser (2017-18).



\$tart \$mart Workshop, Negotiating Salary & Benefits

Branch members Kim Steinke and Judy Donahue presented a \$tart \$mart Workshop on Salary Negotiation to 24 students in the SVSU Gender Studies Class in March. The 80 minute training went well and the students gained information from the workshop they can use in the future. [\\$tart \\$mart is an AAUW program.](#)

Report Highlights Threat of Vouchers /Tax Credits to Public Education

June Turley, Public Policy Chair

With President Trump and Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos pushing for \$20 billion in federal funds to be used for block grants supporting school choice initiatives like vouchers, The Century Foundation, a public policy research institute founded in 1919, released a report that identified school vouchers and tax credits as a real threat to public education

In addition to redirecting funding away from public schools, TCF argues that vouchers also increase student segregation by race and socioeconomic status. Additionally, vouchers, which siphon taxpayer money to private schools, have shown to have a potentially negative impact on student achievement. The report supports socioeconomic integration programs in public school districts and the expansion of magnet programs that have been shown to expand student educational opportunities.

With the House Oversight Committee voting to approve the continuation of the D.C. Opportunity Scholarship Program, the only federally-funded voucher program in the nation, AAUW reaffirms that when federal funds are re-directed to private and religious schools through school voucher programs, it puts the education and civil rights of women and girls at risk. **Tell your senators and representative** to protect funding for public schools, and to oppose any school voucher schemes that may come before the 115th Congress.

Edited from the [Washington Update E-bulletin](#) of 3-10-17, published by [AAUW](#)

Be a Two Minute Activist

<http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/two-minute-activist/>

Select: Take Action/ Education

Tell your senators and representative to protect funding for public schools, and to oppose any school voucher schemes that may come before the 115th Congress.

Redistricting and Lobbying Efforts in Michigan



The [Midland Area League of Women Voters](#) of Midland County invites the AAUW Midland Branch to a meeting on April 26 at the Midland United Church of Christ Fellowship Hall, 4100 Chestnut Hill Drive, 7 pm - 9 pm. Judy Karandjeff, President of the Michigan LWV, will be speaking on the status of redistricting in Michigan and will bring us the latest in lobbying efforts in the Michigan Legislature on issues important to all of us.

Midland AAUW's Activities for Equal Pay Day

Judy Donahue, Public Policy Committee

Yes, We Are Doing It!!! Midland Branch is very active this year with three Equal Pay initiatives. June Turley has written a Letter to the Editor for the Midland Daily News and Saginaw Journal about Equal Pay Day and its meaning, and Carol Arnosky is helping to get the letters into the newspapers.

Branch members will bake cookies with a "bite" cut out symbolizing the cut taken out of women's pay. Thanks for the cookies go to Pauline Pittsley, Mary Crane-Franek, Mary Sidney Matuska, Carol Sarnacke, Barb Galloway and Kim Steinke. Then on April 4, Equal Pay Day, June Turley, Kim Steinke, Joan Brausch, Carol Arnosky and Judy Donahue will deliver the cookies and a message to newspapers, TV stations, Midland City Hall and the Midland Chamber of Commerce.

Judy Donahue with the help of Pauline Pittsley, Jane Wirth and Carol Arnosky has created an Equal Pay Legislative Day Rally flyer for the 4/25/17 rally on the Capitol steps in Lansing. Judy delivered them to AAUW Saginaw, LWV Midland, Zonta of Midland, SVSU Gender Studies Class, AAUW Midland and Northwood University. We need a big turnout at the rally to make an impression on the legislators about Equal Pay for Women. Tell your daughters, granddaughters, and friends about the rally. The [flyer](#) is on [our website](#). We will be carpooling to the rally. Write to aauwmidland@gmail.com for more information. Come one! Come all!

Done in a Day ~ Kerry Buell

[Habitat for Humanity's Women's Build](#) is scheduled for May 8-12. If you would be interested in participating on Monday or Tuesday, Kerry Buell could lead the team. There are two training sessions scheduled, Thursday, April 13 from 4:00 – 5:00 pm at Lowe's and again on Saturday, April 15 from 10:00 – 11:00 am on using power tools before the event. Work groups may schedule a morning session at 8:30 am followed by lunch at 11:30 am or an afternoon session preceded with lunch. Please contact me if you would like to join the group for this effort. Please respond by April 12.

The Diaper Alliance and The Bridge have opportunities for service but with short lead time notice. If you would like to do these programs, please let me know.

Friendly Foodies Invitation ~ Barb Galloway & Carol Arnosky

Chefs for Shelterhouse Fundraiser April 20

Do you enjoy great food, having fun and helping a good cause? Wish you could sample local chefs' culinary bests? Join the Friendly Foodies Interest Group when we attend the Chefs for Shelterhouse annual fundraiser. Shelterhouse provides services to those impacted by domestic violence and sexual assault in Midland and Gladwin counties. Proceeds from the event support victims by providing shelter, counseling and advocacy.



Honorary Chairs Jim Fitterling and Alex Lee welcome guests to Chefs for Shelterhouse 2017. Spend a delicious evening enjoying the signature dishes, hors d'oeuvres and desserts of local chefs. Enjoy a silent auction in addition to fabulous food! The event will be held on Thursday, April 20 from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Great Hall Banquet and Convention Center in Midland.

Tickets for the event are \$50 per person and can be purchased at shelterhousemidland.org/events/chefs or at Chemical Bank (all Midland locations), Eastman Party Store, Shelterhouse Resale Shop and Village Green. Please let Barb Galloway or Carol Arnosky know if you want to attend with us!

Gardening for Fun Interest Group



We will spring into activities in May by hitting the road to travel to your favorite nurseries in the area. Please let us know where you would like to visit and perhaps buy a plant or two by emailing either Kerry or Gina. We will meet at the car share parking lot which is located on Wackerly Rd. nearby at Shade on Wednesday, May 31 at 1:00 pm.

Later in the summer we will take a trip to Traverse City for a tour of the [Botanic Garden at Historic Barns Park](#). We were informed that May is too early to see many flowers north of us. SEE you next month!

Mark Your Calendar

April 4-24 11am - 2pm	UBS Sort Room ~ <i>Come help with the sale</i>
April 4	Equal Pay Day
April 25	Equal Pay Day Rally, Lansing MI
April 26, 7 pm	LWV program, UCC Fellowship Hall
April 28-30	Branch Used Book Sale, Midland Mall
May 18, 11:30 am	Annual Spring Luncheon, Country Club

President: Mary Crane-Franek; President-elect: Kim Steinke; 1st VP Program: Chris Ferrando;
2nd VP Membership: Judy Donahue; The *Twig* Editor: Pauline Pittsley

Web sites: <http://midland-mi.aauw.net> <http://aauwmi.org> E-mail: aauwmidland@gmail.com